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VICTORY BULLETIN

THE WEEKLY SOURCE OF OFFICIAL INFORMATION

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APRIL 10, 1944

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BY THE FUEHRER



FOR THE FUEHRER





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April 10, 1944

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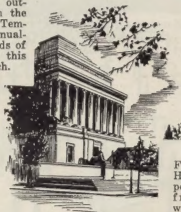
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AMERICAN SIDELIGHTS

Scottish Rite Temple

Among the beautiful buildings of Washington, D. C., none is more outstanding than the Scottish Rite Temple, visited annually by thousands of members of this Masonic branch.



First victims of Hitler's march to power were the fraternal lodges whose roots touched other lands. They had wealth which he coveted and foreign friends which he despised.

**Keep America Safe
Buy Extra War Bonds**

High Volume of Reverse Lend-Lease Aid And Services is Contributing to Victory

Food, Housing, Airdromes, Transportation Services, Civilian Labor Supplied Without Cost to U. S. Forces

Highlights of Foreign Economic Administration report on reverse lend-lease aid

■ The principal war benefit we receive from the lend-lease aid that we extend to our allies is the damage which they are enabled to do to our enemies—and theirs—because of the supplies we send.

An additional war-time benefit which the United States receives as a result of our lend-lease aid is the reverse lend-lease aid furnished to us by our allies. Reverse lend-lease consists of goods, services and information provided to the United States by our allies without payment by us and on the same terms as we provide direct lend-lease assistance.

A steadily increasing volume of reverse lend-lease aid has been furnished to us by our allies, principally by the countries of the British Commonwealth of Nations. We are also receiving reverse lend-lease supplies and services as the need arises from the French Committee of National Liberation, Belgium, the Netherlands, the Soviet Union and China.

The United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand and India estimate that they spent more than \$2,000,000,000 for supplies and services furnished to our armed forces and merchant marine overseas as reverse lend-lease from June 1, 1942 to December 31, 1943, in the following major categories:

United Kingdom	\$1,526,170,000 ¹
Australia	362,365,000
New Zealand	91,886,000
India	114,451,000
	\$2,094,872,000²

By the first of this year we were receiving reverse lend-lease aid from these four countries at a rate approaching \$2,000,000 a year compared with a rate of a little over \$1,000,000 a year for the 12 months ending June 30, 1943.

Approximately one-third of all the supplies and equipment currently required by United States forces in the United Kingdom is supplied by the British and

it is supplied as a reverse lend-lease, without cost to us. In addition, virtually all housing and headquarters accommodations, airdrome facilities, transportation services, civilian labor, and miscellaneous services which our forces are supplied as reverse lend-lease.

We have received over a billion and a quarter pounds of food as reverse lend-lease from the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, and India, in addition to planes, guns, and many thousands of other items of military equipment and supplies, airfields, and other facilities for our forces.

Most of the food has been furnished under reverse lend-lease by Australia and New Zealand. These two countries, with a combined population only one-fifteenth as large as ours, provided over 800,000,000 pounds of food to our forces in the Pacific from June 1942 to January 1, 1944. In the last three months of 1943, Australia and New Zealand alone were furnishing United States Army, Naval, and Marine forces in the Pacific theaters with food at a rate approaching a billion pounds a year.

We have received almost a quarter of a billion pounds of fresh, frozen, and canned meats from Australia and New Zealand, including approximately as much beef and veal as we have sent to all countries from the United States under lend-lease.

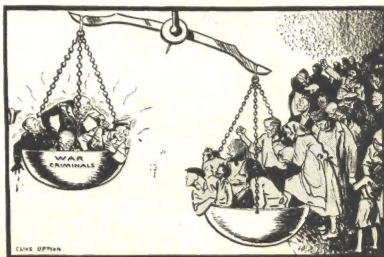
In addition to food from Australia and New Zealand, United States forces in the

British Isles have received about 350,000,000 pounds of food from the United Kingdom and almost 50,000,000 pounds have been furnished to our forces in India as reverse lend-lease. The British have, in addition, supplied American forces with substantial quantities of food in various colonial areas. In the Fijis alone, for example, they have provided our men with 15,000,000 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables, including quantities of sweet corn, bananas, pineapples, and coconuts.

United States forces in the Mediterranean theater have also received as reverse lend-lease from the French many millions of pounds of food grown in French North and West Africa. French Africa is also helping to meet the food needs of the United Nations in Sicily and Italy.

Our other allies have not been in a position to provide reverse lend-lease supplies and services to American forces on the same scale, nor has the need for such aid arisen. The territory of some of the United Nations has been completely overrun by the enemy. The Soviet Union and China, both invaded, have required all they could produce, besides what we could send them, for fighting the invaders on their soil. Still others of the United Nations are too far from the fighting fronts for the need to have arisen to supply American forces. Nevertheless, each of our allies is providing us with reverse lend-lease aid in accordance with its resources and our needs.

The Government of the Netherlands pays as reverse lend-lease all of the expenses for locally procured supplies for American forces in Surinam and the Netherlands West Indies. In the Belgian Congo, American forces are receiving barracks, transportation, and supplies and services as reverse lend-lease. The French Committee of National Liberation has provided reverse lend-lease aid esti-



¹Includes \$1,366,170,000 for aid furnished our forces in the British Isles and for shipping services, together with \$160,000,000 for reverse lend-lease supplies transferred to our forces by the United Kingdom in various combat areas outside the British Isles. On the basis of records so far compiled from these overseas areas the United Kingdom Government estimates that these transfers totalled between \$160,000,000 and \$200,000,000 through December 1943.

²Does not include the value of strategic raw materials, commodities and foodstuffs shipped to the United States under reverse lend-lease, other than benzol.

mated at about \$30,000,000 to our troops in French North and West Africa, in addition to aid furnished in New Caledonia and Equatorial Africa.

The Soviet Union provides ship stores, repairs and other services to United States vessels in Soviet ports. China insisted on turning over without cost to the 14th U. S. Army Air Force the 28 surviving P-40 planes of the one hundred used by the Flying Tigers. These planes were originally purchased for cash by the Chinese Government from the United States.

United States military and naval forces, our merchant marine, and the Red Cross have received without payment in overseas areas virtually every type of supply and service they need which our allies can supply locally.

The cataloging of the supplies and services which have been transferred under reverse lend-lease would require thousands of pages and list hundreds of thousands of items. They include all types of construction facilities, airfields and air bases, barracks, hospitals, warehouses and storage depots, ships and port facilities; foodstuffs and clothing and other quartermaster issues; all grades of petroleum products; munitions and military and naval stores; land, sea, and air transportation of personnel and freight; telegraph and telephone communications and postal facilities; civilian labor and miscellaneous services. In addition our military and naval vessels and merchant marine fleet receive oil, ship stores and supplies, stevedoring and port expenses as reverse lend-lease in British ports and British areas throughout the world.

The figures reported up to now for reverse lend-lease are an incomplete reflection of the value to us of these supplies and services. Reverse lend-lease expenditures by the British Commonwealth countries are made in their own currencies. The dollar figures are arrived at by translating pounds into dollars at official rates of exchange, which may not reflect adequately the lower prices usually prevailing in foreign countries and many underestimate the real value of the aid which we receive from our allies. The figures are incomplete for other reasons. They do not include all the reverse lend-lease aid rendered on the spot in combat areas. Furthermore, accounting is slow and incomplete at best, because reverse lend-lease supplies are provided at thousands of different places all over the world, in large measure out of stocks on hand. This is in contrast to outgoing lend-lease supplies from the United States, which flow from a single, central source under a unified appropriations and procurement procedure. (Fourteenth Report to Congress on Lend-Lease Operations, FEA.)

Nazis Hold Cassino Against Repeated Attacks; Reinforce Balkan Positions

Central Germany Hit by Allied Bombers; Russians Are Driving Enemy Back to Carpathian Mountains

BY HENRY L. STIMSON

Secretary of War

The Allied attack on Cassino has subsided for the time being without achieving the results for which we had hoped. The situation from day to day during the attack was well described by the correspondents on the scene. I do not think it necessary to go into any lengthy explanation of what already has been made abundantly clear. New Zealanders in the town of Cassino and Indian troops in the hills above it fought bravely and vigorously. But the Germans showed again that they are obstinate and effective soldiers who do not quit when they are ordered to hold to a key post at all cost.

Their occupation of the steep hills where their guns covered the town gave the Nazis a continual advantage. The bomb and shell destruction which our planes and guns wrought in Cassino did not prevent a garrison defense by those who survived our explosives and by other enemy troops who filtered in to join them. The rubble was good cover and the tunnels or caves in the adjoining hills gave shelter and ease of movement. The torrential rains immediately after the plane and gun barrage made a morass of the open ground around the town and limited the use of our tanks, while slowing the advance of troops climbing the hills under fire.

The simple fact is that the Germans stopped us. That would be a severe setback only if we did not profit from our lessons. We have learned a great many things since the war began and we have put our learning into practice. There is no reason to believe that our ability to profit from experience has ended now.

I might also remind you that no one made this a test of Allied power or suggested that in these operations we are concentrating our main strength. On the very first day of the Cassino attack I brought to attention a fact which should not be lost from sight now; namely, that very real military objectives have already been achieved in the Italian campaign and the results will progressively aid us in the days ahead. The opening of the Mediterranean, the removal of Italy from the war as an Axis partner, the taking of the Italian Fleet into the Allied line-up, the air bases in Italy for use against Nazis in southern Europe and in Germany itself, our control of the Adriatic,

the tying up of 19 German divisions in actual combat and others in northern Italy which could have been used against Russia or deployed to augment defenses elsewhere—all these are tangible military accomplishments which yield continuing benefits.

I say this not to minimize the obvious facts of the Cassino action but to keep that action in a proper perspective. Despite Cassino, the final chapter of the story has not yet unfolded.

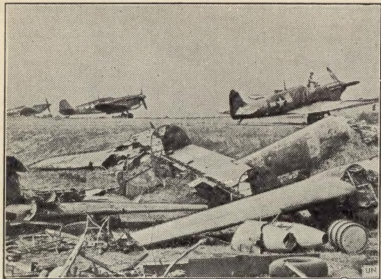
The air campaign out of England has linked German airdromes with German industry as central targets of our bombers. On Monday and Tuesday of this week American planes attacked twelve enemy airdromes in various parts of France, damaging the fields and destroying flak towers, repair shops, supplies and hangars. As in many recent battle drives over Germany, the Luftwaffe was a reluctant dragon. But when its fighter planes refused to meet the challenge to its airfields, they were compelled to accept destruction on the ground. Seventy-two Nazi planes were thus wrecked last week.

Yesterday, our bombers attacked central Germany. Enemy fighters this time resisted but suffered for it.

The Luftwaffe no doubt remains a potent force. When British bombers attacked Berlin on Friday night, German fighters were in the air in great numbers. But it is still true that the Nazis now seem much less willing to meet a heavy Allied attack. Since this reluctance is costly to German industry and production, the evidence of attrition in the enemy fighter strength is strong. We suffer losses of planes and brave men, but these losses have been amply justified by the results achieved.

The Soviet forces this week have made gains in every sector of their southern front. The port of Nikolayev at the mouth of the Bug River is back in Soviet hands. The bulge of the German line in the Black Sea area between the Dniester and the Bug Rivers is in serious danger. A bit farther to the northwest, the fifty-mile front of the Red Army on the Prut River suggests strongly that the Germans will be shoved back to the Carpathian Mountains for their next line of defense. The Soviet capture of Cernowitz tends to the same result. This is a junction on

READY FOR ACTION



British Spitfires ready for action in Italy. (UNIO Photo.)

the last railway which the Nazis held to the east of the Carpathians.

At Tarnopol, a good many thousand German troops are surrounded, and south of Proskurov in a loop, which the Red Army is closing, there is a larger German force now in imminent danger.

The Nazis have had to meet a new emergency in the Balkans by sending additional German troops and taking direct control of transportation, including river and port facilities. The Nazi domination of all local activities may temporarily reinforce their occupation, but it stores up additional trouble for them. The lid will not easily be held down as the German military lines are pressed back upon the Balkans.

In the Southwest Pacific, our ground forces, planes and warships added to the mounting total of Japanese losses. During the past week 4 sizable ships have been destroyed and 2 damaged, and 14 smaller craft have been sunk. We have destroyed or damaged 56 barges. Against the perimeter of our base at Empress Augusta Bay, on Bougainville, the Japanese made another futile attack. As a result of these enemy attacks 2,384 Japanese dead had been counted up to March 27. This does not take into account those of the enemy who were left dead in the jungle beyond our patrols. I might add that inference on our part has now been verified by reconnaissance through the country behind the lines which shows the large number of Japanese dead left there.

One of the American units at Empress Augusta Bay is a Negro Battalion of the 24th Infantry Regiment. I understand that this battalion has already been in action in combat patrols.

There is now in the South Pacific at advanced bases a Negro Infantry Division, the 93rd, commanded by Major General Raymond G. Lehman. This is the first such unit to join our forces in the South Pacific.

The First Cavalry Division in the Admiralty Islands has occupied the two small islands of Amo and Ndova, south of Manus Island. Mopping-up operations continue on Manus and Los Negros. Up to March 27, 2,594 Japanese dead had been counted in the Admiralties.

The advance of Japanese columns from Burma across the Indian border naturally necessitates effective counter-action. The enemy units in the present operations are relatively strong and, if they were successful, they could do damage to Allied supply lines. These considerations have been well understood in the field. The decisive stage of operations in that particular area has not yet been passed.

In north Burma, Chinese and American troops are pressing in upon Japanese troops who have been boxed up at Shaduzup. To the east, a column of British Imperial troops has been advancing south from captured Sumprabum in the direction of the Japanese base at Myitkyina.

Total U. S. Army casualties in all theaters as reported through March 15, 1944, are as follows: 22,570 killed, 53,124 wounded, 27,183 missing and 27,742 prisoners—a total of 130,619. Of the wounded, 27,296 have returned to duty.

Of those taken prisoner, 1,675 have been reported by the enemy as having died of disease in prison camps, mostly in Japanese-occupied territory. (War Dept., Mar. 30.)

EXPENDITURES FOR PUBLIC AID SHOW SHARP DECREASE

■ Total Federal and State expenditures for public aid last year dropped to less than one-third the amount spent in 1938, when relief expenditures reached a crest for the decade 1933-43, according to a report of the Social Security Board of the Federal Security Agency.

From a high of \$3,200,000,000 in 1938 expenditures dropped to about \$979,000,000 in 1943—a decline of more than half a billion dollars from 1942. Two-thirds of the total for 1943 went for old-age assistance.

Tapering off and liquidation of WPA and other Federal emergency relief measures caused the sharp decline in expenditures in public aid since 1938. At the same time, expenditures for State-Federal program of public assistance to the needy adult, dependent children and the needy blind increased in each category during the five-year period, although since the middle of 1942 the number of persons receiving assistance declined as employment increased.

These increases in public assistance expenditures, the report explains, reflect the cost of new programs set up by the States since 1938 under terms of the Social Security Act, which allows the Federal Government to match State funds for the three special types of assistance. Higher average monthly assistance payments to meet the rising cost of living were also reflected in the increase.

With the exception of general assistance, financed entirely by States and localities, the State-Federal public assistance programs now carry the entire burden for public aid in the United States. Some 3,000,000 persons were being cared for under the State-Federal programs in Dec., 1943—2,146,000 needy adult, 676,000 dependent children and 76,000 needy blind. Most of these persons cannot earn their living because of handicaps of age, blindness, or ill health.

General assistance payments reflected a sharp decrease in the number of persons needing help, due to wartime job opportunities. Less than 300,000 cases were reported on general assistance in Dec. 1943, as compared with 445,000 in Jan. 1943, 836,000 in Jan. 1942, and nearly 2,000,000 in Jan. 1938. (FSA, Mar. 30.)

For \$75, invested in a \$100 War Bond, the Army can get a small wall tent, a waterproof bedding roll, and a khaki cotton shirt.

☆ THE ARMED FORCES ☆

Government Life Insurance Issued to 95 Percent of All Military Personnel

Opportunity Provided for Veterans to Convert War Policies to a Practical Permanent Civilian Plan

By MAJOR GENERAL J. A. ULIO

Adjutant General of the War Department

The Army of the United States is the best insured army the world has ever known.

Approximately 95% of all military personnel are insured under the Government Life Insurance Program for an average amount per insured individual in excess of \$9,000.

At reception centers throughout the country more than 99% of all inductees are applying for government insurance in an average amount per insured individual in excess of \$9,900. Currently, approximately 98.5% of all officers and men departing for overseas stations have purchased an average amount of government insurance per life of approximately \$9,600.

This has been made possible because Government Life Insurance can be purchased at normal peace-time rates. All costs of administration are borne by the Government, as well as the cost of losses resulting from the extra hazard of military service.

Death is proverbially a distasteful subject about which one does not like to think. But no one believes more strongly in immortality than a person the age of the average soldier. While realizing that casualties are a necessary concomitant of war, he assumes that it will be someone other than himself. He nevertheless does buy insurance to provide for his loved ones in the event the unexpected happens. This is especially true of those soldiers who are married or those who have dependent parents for whom they wish to make provision.

The soldier who buys Government insurance may designate any beneficiary of his choice, in such order and amount as he may desire, within a broad class of permitted beneficiaries. A widow, widower or child may be designated (including an adopted child, stepchild or an illegitimate child)—a parent (including a parent through adoption and one who has stood "in loco parentis" at any time prior to entry into active service for a period of at least one year)—a brother or sister (including a half-brother or half-sister).

It is generally acknowledged that a soldier who owns insurance is a better citizen because, by providing for the future protection of his loved ones, he is making a substantial contribution to the future economic and social welfare of the nation. If the soldier is really wise—and most of them are—he owns the full amount of \$10,000 of government insurance for which he is eligible, and he applies for it during the first 120 days that he is on active duty. During that period he can get the insurance without medical examination or other proof of good health.

Insurance for which application is made after 120 days from date of entry on active duty is only issued subject to proof of good health as determined by the Administrator of Veterans' affairs. A special effort was made by the War Department from April to August 1943 to acquaint all military personnel with the additional opportunity granted under the provisions of Public Law 36, 78th Congress, to obtain National Service Life Insurance without medical examination or proof of good health. It was then found that the great majority of soldiers who had previously owned less than the maximum amount of insurance for which they were eligible took advantage of this opportunity to increase their coverage. It is estimated that approximately 2,250,000 members of the Army purchased new or increased old insurance at that time.

The low premium cost of National Service Life Insurance is indicated by the following table showing the monthly premiums for \$10,000 of insurance on the five-year level-premium term plan:

Age	Monthly Premium
18	\$8.40
21	6.50
24	6.80
27	7.10
30	7.60
33	8.50
36	9.90
40	12.70

The fact that the proceeds of the insurance are only payable to a beneficiary in monthly installments over a long period of time, or for lifetime, is one of the definite advantages. When a soldier dies

who owns \$10,000 of such insurance and the beneficiary is under 30 at the time of his death, the beneficiary will receive \$55.10 per month for 240 months. If the beneficiary is 30 or older at the time of the soldier's death, the beneficiary will receive an income every month for life, the amount depending upon the beneficiary's age. If the original beneficiary should die before having received at least 120 such payments, the monthly benefit will continue to a designated contingent beneficiary. If none has been designated, the payments will nevertheless continue until at least 120 have been made under the policy, if there is someone else to receive them within the permitted class of beneficiaries. The following table illustrates what these payments may be:

Age of the beneficiary at the time of the death of the insured	Monthly life income on \$10,000 policy
40	\$4.50
50	5.39
60	6.81

Originally, National Service Life Insurance is available only on a five-year level-premium term plan. This is particularly appropriate because the low premium rate permits every soldier to own the maximum amount of death protection while he is in the Army, for the rate is within his available means. On the other hand, looking ahead to the future, one very favorable feature of this insurance is the opportunity of converting (changing) the original policy to one on the ordinary, 20 or 30 payment life plan. After the original policy has been in effect for one year, and at any time thereafter, within the five-year term period, the term policy which provides temporary protection may be converted to one on a permanent plan. Conversion may be made without medical examination or other proof of good health, irrespective of physical condition at the time conversion is requested. With three different plans of permanent insurance available, a reasonable amount of flexibility is permitted so that each may determine his own long term future requirements.

The desirability of converting the five-year term insurance policy to a permanent plan as soon as possible is considered by the War Department to be a question for the individual to determine on the basis of his immediate and potential future financial status. On the whole, in time of war when the need for the maximum amount of death protection is paramount, it is felt that it is more desirable to have the maximum of term insurance than it would be to have a smaller amount of permanent protection. The immediate pressing need is to provide protection against the hazard of death rather than the long term desirability of creating a reserve, or savings fund,

PICKING OFF THE IAPS



Marines firing away at Japanese troops on a strategic airfield in the Pacific. (Marine Corps Photo.)

for old age or unexpected contingencies. It is generally felt that in the light of the average pay rate of the soldier, most may find it impossible, or in any event difficult, to maintain the maximum amount of insurance during the war on any plan other than term insurance.

Many soldiers, keenly aware of the long term advantages of a permanent plan of insurance, are foreseeing the day when they may want to convert the term policy. They are setting aside part of their pay in savings or soldiers' deposit funds in that amount which would be necessary to pay the difference in premiums between term and permanent insurance. Thus, those who can afford this additional savings have arranged programs which will not only leave their families the proceeds of the insurance in the event of untimely death, but the savings fund as well. On the other hand, when they return from the war, they may convert the policy retroactively as of the original issue date, to whatever plan they desire. The money necessary to pay up the difference in premiums required to effect such a retroactive conversion has been saved from their pay.

A soldier with insurance issued at age

30 is paying \$7.10 a month for \$10,000 of term insurance. If a year after purchasing the policy he were to convert to ordinary life he would have to pay \$16 per month, or \$23.50 per month on the 20-payment life plan. Unless he had outside sources of income, during military service it would be difficult, or impossible, to maintain the maximum amount of permanent insurance out of the \$50 or \$60 monthly pay of the private soldier.

All permanent plans of insurance provide for cash, loan and extended insurance values. Under these plans the soldier not only provides protection for his family in the event of his death, but as a soldier, or a veteran, he establishes a reserve fund upon which he may draw for emergencies later in life.

Our men have been wise—they have bought substantial amounts of insurance. Those who unfortunately will not return have assured reasonable comfort for their beneficiaries. The others will have established the basis for a working program on which they may then build a supplement for their own security later in life. (Prepared especially for VICTORY BULLETIN.)

OVER 173,000 ILL AND WOUNDED MEN MOVED BY AIR

More than 173,000 sick and wounded patients of U. S. and Allied forces were evacuated by American military aircraft throughout the world in 1943. The total, based on reports from Major General David N. W. Grant, Air Surgeon to the Commanding General of the Army Air Forces is broken down as follows:

Eleven Air Forces overseas	161,541
Eleven Air Transport Command wings overseas	8,687
AAF, Continental U. S.	3,299
Total	173,527

The above figures refer to sick and wounded patients admitted to a medical service and therefore include not only non-battle casualties, but also individuals who have been air-evacuated more than once, from one hospital to another.

A total of 3,260 individuals was evacuated from theaters of operation into the U. S. aboard Air Transport Command airplanes. The totals of patients evacuated in the major theaters of operation are as follows: New Guinea, 70,808; Solomon Islands, 24,767, and Tunisia, Sicily and Italy, 58,479.

In the Mediterranean area, where evacuated patients were flown a total of 16,491,266 miles and 131,762 hours, the average flight was 282 miles and the average flying time, 2.2 hours. The customary evacuation route from Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands was more than 1,000 miles and the flying time ranged from 4½ to 7½ hours. Evacuation in New Guinea involved shorter hops in the majority of cases, the exception being the 700-mile flight to Australia.

Medical Air Evacuation Transport Squadrons, consisting of flight surgeons, flight nurses, and enlisted men trained at the AAF School of Air Evacuation, Bowman Field, Kentucky, are now on duty in all parts of the world; 25 MAET squadrons have been activated since Dec. 1942.

In explaining that a medical study of the types of patients evacuated, reactions noted, and causes of death in flight has been projected by the School of Air Evacuation, General Grant said:

"Until this study is available, the story of air evacuation from the standpoint of medical risk is best told by the numbers of deaths during flight. The total reported in 1943 was 11. This is a rate of .006 per cent, or 6 per 100,000 patient trips." (War Dept.)

☆ WAR PRODUCTION ☆

Aircraft Industry Dominates Over-All Production; Heavy Bombers Increasing

Selective Service Demands Intensify Manpower Problem; More Rigid Schedules Add Efficiency

By DONALD M. NELSON

Chairman, War Production Board

The over-all output of munitions during the month of Feb. was just about the same as during Jan., according to preliminary figures.

The output of the aircraft industry dominated the production picture with an increase of 4% over Jan. The month was especially marked by the production of large numbers of heavy bombers.

Production of heavy-heavy trucks—which has been suffering from a shortage of castings, forgings and bearings for axles and transmissions—was up 3% over Jan. and was nearly on schedule.

Throughout Feb., manpower still remained a limiting factor in the output of many munitions items—especially such critical components as bearings, castings, and fractional horsepower motors. In some munitions programs, however,—notably aircraft—a more efficient utilization of manpower was evident. It took 1% less manpower to produce \$1,000,000,000 worth of munitions during Feb. than during Nov.

This more efficient use of manpower is traceable to two factors. First, production schedules are now more certain than at any previous time, so that concerns producing munitions are now able to estimate accurately how much manpower they need, whereas in the past they have tended to overestimate their manpower needs as a hedge against increased schedules. Second, a higher worker productivity has been made possible by the greater know-how that management and labor have gained during the period since the war production program began.

It cannot be emphasized too strongly that manpower will become a more and more critical problem in munitions production during the months ahead, because the nation faces the problem of maintaining an over-all munitions output slightly higher than at present, in the face of intensified manpower drains in the lower age brackets to meet the needs of the armed forces.

Programs most likely to be affected by the manpower shortage are those—like radar, aircraft, high-octane gasoline, and synthetic rubber—which are forced to rely on many young engineers, techni-

cians, and skilled workers with very special training.

By major categories, Feb. production showed the following changes from Jan.: Aircraft (airframes, engines, propellers, spare parts, and aircraft equipment) up 4%.

Ships (value of work done on Army, Navy and Maritime ships including maintenance and repair) down 4%.

Guns and fire control down 1%.

Ammunition up 9%.

Combat and motor vehicles down 10%.

Communication and electronic equipment down 5%.

Other equipment and supplies down 3%.

AIRCRAFT

Airplane production in Feb., according to preliminary figures, reached an all-time record of 81,400,000 pounds of airframe weight (excluding spare parts). As already announced, 8,760 planes were produced and accepted in the month. Again it was heavy bombers that pushed airframe weight up into new high ground. Transports (on airframe weight basis) showed the largest increase, 15%, over Jan. and were almost on schedule. Medium bombers were up 14% and beat schedule by 5%. In terms of dollar value, aircraft made the outstanding gain in the munitions group—running practically even with schedule. Aircraft accounted for 30% of munitions production for the month.

SHIPS

The value of work done on Navy ships was down 1% from Jan. Combatant vessels declined 5%. Work done on landing vessels—the most pressing program—increased 10%. The Maritime Commission delivered 134 vessels, totaling 1,373,000 deadweight tons, an increase of 14% in tonnage over Jan. deliveries, but still considerably below Dec.'s all-time peak. The first of the Victory ships was delivered. Deliveries of Navy-built ships were down to 206,000 displacement tons, 22% below Jan.

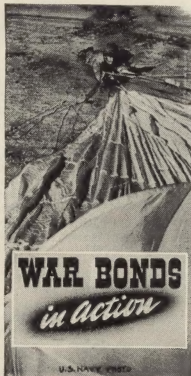
GUNS, FIRE CONTROL, AND AMMUNITION

That it is not easy to slow down assembly lines to the right pace in declining programs to meet reduced schedules is seen in some phases of the ammunition program. General purpose and aerial bombs, anti-aircraft shells, and ammunition loading all went way over their generally declining schedules. On the other hand, small arms ammunition dropped 3% more than scheduled. Small arms declined 5% as planned. Guns and fire control equipment as a whole ran somewhat behind a declining schedule.

COMBAT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

In the critical heavy-heavy truck program, deliveries were only 3% below schedule and up 3% from Jan. Tractors maintained the Jan. level of production, but fell below the production planned. Automotive vehicle output as a whole decreased 8%, falling somewhat below schedule.

Combat vehicles hit a 13-month low. A design change in one armored vehicle accounted for the poor showing in this group. Motor carriages for self-propelled guns fell 15% behind Jan. output—where a drop of only about 10% was planned. (WPB, Mar. 27.)



More and more our armies are landing our fighting troops by parachute, disrupting enemy lines, enemy communications, but paying a heavy price in casualties.

Silken fineries and their substitutes are fast passing from the market to provide safe landings for our distant fighting men. We can still buy silk and nylon for them with War Bonds and Stamps.

U. S. Treasury Department

★ WPB ANNOUNCEMENTS ★

The full texts of the orders, regulations, and new releases digested below are available from the Division of Public Inquiries, Office of War Information, Washington 25, D. C. Requests for such texts should cite the dates indicated.

BITUMINOUS COAL DISTRIBUTORS: Production has little chance of exceeding 1943 total due to shortage of component parts (3-23).

TIRE RETREADING, RECAPPING, REPAIR EQUIPMENT: Manufacturers provided with detailed list of 12 types of equipment, arranged in order of urgency, and directed to concentrate on these items in preference to orders of secondary importance (3-23).

ELEVATORS AND ELEVATOR PARTS: L-89 amended to add control and prohibit manufacture (3-23).

CANE BEVERAGE SPIRITS: Quota for Puerto Rico in 1944 set at 7,300,000 proof gallons (3-23).

CORE WIRE: Restrictions on use in plastic temples of sun glasses relaxed by amendment to L-298 (3-23).

SHIPPING CONTAINERS: Further control on use for civilian goods extended by amendment to L-317 (3-23).

PORTABLE OR PREFABRICATED BUILDINGS: Those intended to remain for undetermined time are limited by L-41 (3-24).

ELECTRIC HEATING PADS: Manufacture prohibited by L-324.

ALUMINUM: Additional uses for products essential to war altered by amendment to Supplementary Order M-14 (3-24).

FURNACES: Unrestricted use of inner liners for casings permitted by revision of L-22 (3-25).

PAINTS: Manufacturers warned that container quota adjustments under M-81 are improbable for 1944 (3-25).

COIR YARN: Industry advisory committee formed (3-25).

METAL CASSETS, BURIAL VAULTS: When steel can be made available is uncertain (3-25).

TRACTOR EQUIPMENT: Production expected to fill essential requirements (3-25).

METAL FIRE DOORS: Restrictions on weight eased by amendment to L-142 (3-25).

AUTOMOTIVE REPLACEMENT PARTS: Conditions under which certain parts may be treated as Class A products under Controlled Materials Plan spelled out in amendment to Direction No. 5 to CMP Regulation No. 3 (3-25).

BARRELS: Slack Copperage Industry Advisory Committee votes to adopt government recommendations for increased strength (3-25).

SHELTER TEXTING, NUMBERED DUCK: To meet military requirements for remainder of 1944, directions to all integrated producers provide that production be restored to levels of first quarter of 1943 (3-27).

CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY, EQUIPMENT: Certain restrictions removed on use of metals in contractors' dewatering and supply pumps (3-27).

MALLEABLE IRON CASTINGS: Operators of transportation systems may not use quarterly quota ratings to purchase certain items of MRO equipment (3-27).

CHROMIUM METAL: Amount exempt from restriction reduced from 3,000 pounds to 250 pounds by Supplementary Order M-18-a (3-27).

CAST IRONWARE: Restrictions on specifications for certain types removed by amendment to L-300 (3-27).

ALLOY STEEL: Use of restriction in manufacture of tanks for rotary eliminated by Schedule IV to L-216 (3-27).

INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS: Importers entitled to base prices on their first purchases after

Aug. 20, 1943, may sell at those prices only until May 1 (3-27).

COMMERCIAL LAUNDRY EQUIPMENT: Program for production of \$27,000,000 worth approved (3-27).

METHYL ABETATE: Plain and hydrogenated freed of controls by amendments to M-340 (3-27).

CMP DELIVERIES: Acceptance of "special item" deliveries of materials under reduced requirements clarified in Interpretation No. 2 to CMP Reg. No. 2 (3-27).

COAL STOKERS: Restrictions controlling distribution of Class A type simplified (3-28).

SYNTHETIC RUBBER THREAD: Unrestricted manufacture and distribution extended to Oct. 1 in amendments to M-124 (3-28).

STEATITE TALC: Inventory restrictions relaxed by amendment to M-239 (3-28).

PENICILLIN: No further major expansions to be approved for plant construction (3-28).

MERCURIC CHLORIDE: Plans for liquidating surplus Army inventory of 364,450 pounds now being formulated (3-28).

DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMERS: Strict control instituted over placement of purchase orders by electric power producers (3-28).

TRUCK TIRES: Standard types for civilian highway use to contain more synthetic rubber (3-28).

LEAD PENCILS, PEN HOLDERS: Iron, steel, stainless steel, and zinc deleted from list of prohibited metals by L-257-9 (3-29).

INCANDESCENT, FLUORESCENT LAMPS: Manufacturers continue to use tungsten and molybdenum at present rate (3-29).

BALSA FLOATS: Advisory committee formed (3-29).

BRASS RODS: Supply situation discussed by screw machine products advisory committee (3-29).

PAPER AND PAPERBOARD: 4,353,357 tons to be manufactured during second quarter of 1944 (3-29).

COTTON TEXTILES: Mills selling for export purposes must insist that properly certified and rated orders be provided by converters and exporters. No sale is made under provisions of M-317 (3-29).

ASBESTOS TEXTILES: Total amount allocated during last 3 quarters of 1943 was 43,373,000 pounds and 1944 allocations will total between 57,000,000 and 58,000,000 (3-29).

FLASHLIGHTS: 20% increase over present production of dry cell batteries needed to meet military requirements (3-29).

FLUID MILK SHIPPING CONTAINERS: Steel supply, production of metal ice cream cans, milk can distribution, Conservation Order M-200 and Haulage Request TR-2 discussed by advisory committee (3-29).

IRON AND STEEL TRANSPORTATION: Manpower problems due to draft demands reviewed (3-29).

PREFERENCE RATINGS, ALLOTMENTS: Rules governing acquisition for manufacture of certain Class B facilities explained in amendment to Direction No. 34 to CMP Reg. No. 1 (3-29).

WHOLESALE OVERALLS: Advisory committee formed (3-30).

TRUCKS: 1,257 vehicles released under rationing program from March 12 to 18 (3-30).

MOTOR TRUCKS: More than 37% of all produced in 1943 were heavy types (3-30).

ELECTRIC CONTROL EQUIPMENT: Restrictions lifted on use of steel for general purpose and for semi-dust tight enclosures for floor mounted control equipment, by amendment to L-250 (3-30).

FORGINGS: Classified as undesignated products under terms of M-293 (3-30).

STAINLESS STEEL: Restrictions removed on use of stainless scrap in melts by cancellation of Direction 3 to M-154 (3-30).

NITRO CELLULOSE PLASTICS: M-154 amended to eliminate restriction on manufacture of decorative buttons and buckles (3-30).

GLASS CONTAINERS: Shipping container shortage reported most pressing problem of industry (3-30).

LUMBER: Effect of recently established controls on wood furniture (3-30).

SECOND HAND MACHINES, EQUIPMENT, PARTS: Authority delegated to OPA to require second hand dealers, agents, auctioneers, brokers and machinery manufacturers to file reports on available machinery on hand (3-30).

ELECTROLYTIC CONDENSER PAPER: Manilla fibre permitted in production for manufacture of electrical condensers or capacitors (3-30).

BALSA IMPORTERS: Industry advisory committee formed (3-30).

MAIL IMPORTS: General Imports Order M-63 revised to cancel exemption from control where value per shipment is less than \$100 (3-30).

RESISTANCE WELDING EQUIPMENT: Exemptions to restrictions prohibiting manufacturers or dealers from accepting orders for or delivering on any but WPB Form 1319 now permit deliveries of this material on CMP Form L-224 and General Administrative Form 1455, as well as any of the F-19 series through amendment to L-298 (3-31).

WOOD TANKS: Production in 1944 requires about 109,427,000 board feet of lumber (3-31).

LUMBER: Estimated Jan. production was 2,489,479,000 board feet (3-31).

CAST IRON BATH TUBS: Production of 50,000 for limited distribution provided for during second quarter of 1944 (3-31).

ALKYD RESINS: April allocations for marine paints based on firm orders (3-31).

IRON AND STEEL: M-126 liberalized to permit manufacture of some heretofore prohibited (3-31).

SALES CONTINUE UP

Sales of wholesalers, as reported for 2,466 establishments, gained 6% in Jan. 1944 over Jan. 1943. On a year-to-year comparison, reporting wholesalers noted almost no sales change for Jan. 1943, a gain of 37% for Jan. 1942, and a gain of 18% for Jan. 1941. For the first month of 1944 dollar volume of wholesalers throughout the country was 7% short of their Dec. 1943 sales.

Of 35 trades, 8 recorded substantial (18% to 46%) sales gains and 18 showed moderate (4% to 14%) rises for January 1944 compared with January 1943. Noteworthy increases occurred in sales of clothing and furnishings, except shoes, (46%), automotive supplies (25%), metals (22%), and paper and its products (21%). Wholesalers of groceries and foods, except farm products, showed a sales gain of 13%; drugs and sundries (liquor excluded), 10%; general hardware, 7%; and tobacco and its products, 6%. (Census Bureau, Commerce Dept.)

☆ MANPOWER ☆

Selective Service Moves to Balance Demands of Armed Forces and Labor

Deferment Requests Endorsed Only Upon Approval by Government Representatives; Procedures Tightened

■ National Headquarters of the Selective Service System has taken five major steps to assure the armed forces of a continuing supply of young men while at the same time providing procedures designed to prevent the induction of indispensable registrants less than 26 years old from disrupting war activities.

These steps, telegraphed to State Director of Selective Service by Major General Lewis B. Hershey, Director of Selective Service, are:

(1) Authorization for the War Department, Navy Department, the Maritime Commission, War Production Board, Office of Defense Transportation, War Food Administration, War Shipping Administration, Petroleum Administration for War, Solid Fuels Administration, and the Office of the Rubber Director to designate representatives in each State to endorse special requests for deferment of key registrants under the age of 26 engaged in war activities other than agriculture and employed in establishments coming within their jurisdiction.

(2) Direction to State Directors of Selective Service to issue orders to report for preinduction physical examination by the armed forces to all registrants under the age of 26 who are occupationally deferred in Class II-A or Class II-B provided such registrants have not been physically examined within the last 90 days.

(3) Review and reconsideration of the classifications of all registrants under the age of 26 in Class III-A, Class II-A, Class II-B, Class II-C and Class III-C before proceeding to the review and reconsideration of cases of registrants ages 26 through 37 in those classes as ordered February 26 in conformance with the President's recommendation for a tightening up of deferments of all men occupationally deferred.

(4) Review of the cases of registrants under 26 in Classes III-A, II-A, II-B, and III-C without regard to whether their existing deferments have expired and if reclassification appears warranted, reclassification without regard to existing deferment termination dates.

(5) Direction that local boards, upon receipt of proper information, may re-

classify into Class II-A or Class II-B registrants under 26 who have been found upon examination to be fit for limited military service only or unfit for any military service, provided such registrants are contributing to war production or war supporting activities.

The procedure whereby duly authorized representatives of the War Department, Navy Department, Maritime Commission and the other specified Federal procurement agencies may endorse requests of employers for deferment of key registrants under the age of 26 engaged in war activities other than agriculture has been agreed to by the agencies involved in cooperation with the Selective Service System. It is intended to provide an interim procedure whereby the authorized representatives of the procurement agencies may endorse the requests of employers for key workers under 26 until such time as permanent procedures are established for the filing of requests, and lists are compiled of specific war activities and establishments in which registrants under 26 may be deferred.

The procedure provides that the duly authorized representative of the procurement agency may endorse the request of the employer for the deferment of a key worker which is filed with the State Director of Selective Service on Selective Service Form 42-A Special in the case of all registrants under 26 except those specifically excepted by the Director of Selective Service in activities such as the Merchant Marine and Army Transport Corps.

If the State Director accepts the recommendation of the procurement agency representative, and it is emphasized that the recommendation is not binding upon the State Director, he will forward the Form 42-A Special with his acceptance to the appropriate local board. When the local board receives the Form 42-A Special it will consider the registrant for deferment or will reopen and reconsider his classification even though he has already been classified as available for service.

The procedure is effective immediately and will apply although new lists of war activities and establishments are not yet

available to the State Directors. It is contemplated, however, that the procurement agencies will furnish a new list of war activities and a list of establishments within those activities in which key registrants under the age of 26 may be considered for occupational deferment to Selective Service within the near future. When the list of war activities and the establishments within those activities have been issued to State Directors they will constitute the only activities and establishments in which registrants may be considered as exceptions to the general restriction against the occupational deferment of registrants under the age of 26 ordered by Selective Service February 26.

Furthermore, as the new procedure becomes operative State Directors were advised they may discontinue the listing of registrants under 26 on the replacement lists of replacement schedules.

As to the preinduction physical examination of men under 26, Selective Service advised its State Directors:

"Direct local boards to issue orders to report for preinduction physical examination to all registrants under the age of 26 who are in Class II-A or Class II-B provided such registrants have not been physically examined by the armed forces within ninety days of the date of this order."

General Hershey explained:

"This action does not mean that such registrants may not be retained or reclassified in Class II-A or Class II-B but is designed to accelerate the processing for induction of those who will become available for military service and to provide the Director and employers with information regarding those who are not acceptable for military service."

As to review and reconsideration, General Hershey wired the State Directors:

"My telegram of Feb. 26 directed a review of the classification of all registrants in Class II-A, II-B, and III-C, particularly those under the age of 26. Direct local boards to review and reconsider the classifications of registrants under the age of 26 in Class III-A, II-A, II-B, II-C and III-C, before proceeding with the review and reconsideration of those cases of registrants ages 26 through 37. The review of registrants in those classes will proceed without regard to whether or not existing deferments have expired."

This review and reconsideration, the General said, is intended to cause the reconsideration of the classifications of men under 26 now in Class III-A because of children, those under 26 in the occupationally deferred classes of II-A and II-B, and those under 26 deferred because of their contribution to agriculture in Class II-C and Class III-C, prior to

the review and reconsideration of the classifications of older men.

As to the reclassification of men now classified as available for limited military service only in Class I-A-L, or as unfit for any military service, General Hershey said it was intended to permit them to be classified into Class II-A or II-B if they are contributing to war production, or in support of the war effort. (Selective Service.)

The situation pertaining to war production deferments in the 22 through 25 age-group, inclusive, is explained by the WPB in the following telegram to its regional directors:

Representatives from the War Department, Navy Department, Maritime Commission and War Production Board are contacting manufacturers who are engaged in the production of certain critical and urgent war programs and components therefore, to ascertain if such representatives will support such manufacturers' requests for deferment (Form 42-A Special) for men 22 through 25, inclusive.

Representatives of the Army, Navy, Air Forces and Maritime Commission have been at are being instructed to limit their endorsement of manufacturers' requests for deferment (Form 42-A Special) in accordance with certain critical and urgent programs whose such representatives of these agencies are in current contact with such manufacturers. The following is a list of such critical and urgent war production programs—Army list: DUKWS, tires and tubes (Aircraft, Combat and Heavy Duty) including necessary tire cord, fabric and mold; radar; rockets, critical components for trucks, heavy and light heavy (2½-ton and heavier) including truck trailers and Class I and Class II tractors; research and development work specifically assigned by the technical services; air planes (Group I through IV by plants and by planes as listed (list to be forwarded later). Navy list: landing craft, rockets, submarines, aircraft carriers; high capacity ammunition; radar; maintenance of ships and aircraft for the fleet; airplanes (Group I through IV by plants and by planes as listed (list to be forwarded later). Maritime list: all tanker construction, combat loaded cargo and transport ships (AKAS and APAS).

Production of components in critical short supply for the above listed programs shall receive the same consideration as the end product listed, to the extent required in each plant.

Please immediately instruct the proper representatives of the War Production Board to contact manufacturers who are engaged in the above production programs as listed, including component parts thereof as outlined, and ascertain if such manufacturers' requests for endorsement of deferment requests (Form 42-A Special) have been acted upon by the representatives of the Army, Navy, Air Forces and Maritime Commission. Every care should be exercised to avoid duplicate endorsements.

If those cases where the manufacturer has requested such endorsements for deferment requests from representatives of the other agencies listed above, the representatives of the War Production Board, if requested by the manufacturer, may endorse the manufacturer's deferment requests on Form 42-A Special, which forms, when so endorsed, shall be forwarded by the manufacturer in accordance with the instructions of the Selective Service System.

Representatives of the War Production Board shall be instructed to limit their endorsement of requests for deferment in the age group 22 through 25 years, inclusive, to men whose in those plants engaged in the critical and urgent war production programs as above listed, and then only to specific individuals engaged in work in those plants on such programs and where such work requires an exceptional or specialized skill or knowledge or a high educational or specialized qualification; and then only when the individual employer can show that there is no other less urgent work within the plant or by recruitment.

It is desired that contact by the War Production Board representatives with establishments and plants as indicated shall be completed by Saturday, April 8, and that all reports of deferment endorsements shall reach Washington not later than Monday, April 10. (WPB, Mar. 20.)

VICTORY CAN WAIT



APPEALS PROCEDURE UNRESTRICTED

■ Unrestricted right of appeal from decisions of the War Manpower Commission is provided in a revision of its regulation governing appeals.

The original WMC regulation, issued May 22, 1943 specifically indicated those persons entitled to appeal and spelled out under what conditions appeals could be made.

The new regulation extends the right of appeal both to worker and employer affected by a decision made at any step of the appeal process. Both persons involved must be present at the hearing before the area appeal committee or explain absence, but otherwise there are no restrictions on the right to take the case higher.

Other changes in the appeal regulation involve points which experience has shown needed either clarification or minor technical revision. There has been, for example, some confusion on the question of a worker's right to retain new employment obtained on the

strength of a statement of availability, if the employer has appealed and it has been finally determined that the statement was erroneously issued.

The revised regulation holds that a statement of availability, once issued, stands. The employer may appeal as a matter of principle or precedent but he cannot demand that the statement of availability be withdrawn or that the worker be required to leave his new employment. In order to provide a means of reviewing the action of local employment offices before the services of a worker are lost to an employer, the revised regulation provides an optional procedure for temporary suspension of the issuance of statement of availability and making referrals in certain types of cases. The suspension may be for a limited period only, the maximum period allowable being 10 days. This procedure is designed to give employers the greatest degree of relief consistent with protection of the rights of workers. (WMC.)

Prevention of Industrial Accidents Speeds Production; Conserves Labor

**Injuries Cost U. S. 56,800,000 Work Days in 1943;
In-Plant Training Provided to Cut Manpower Loss**

By VERNE A. ZIMMER

Director, Division of Labor Standards, U. S. Department of Labor

In the spring of 1943 top executives in a large West Coast shipyard woke up to the fact that industrial accidents were seriously impeding its production efforts. Job accidents had killed seven workers within three months. During this same short space of time work injuries had resulted in the loss of 12,488 days of productive labor. The accident rate in the yard was unusually high for the industry. Translated into terms of production, this meant serious delay in the building of ships vital to successful prosecution of the war.

The shipyard was able to arrest this tragic situation through the personal consulting service of one of the country's outstanding safety engineers. Although he was employed by another company, he volunteered assistance to the shipyard through the U. S. Department of Labor's manpower conservation program. He devoted four days to a complete analysis of the yard's safety problems and made recommendations which subsequently resulted in a marked decrease in accidents.

This story is but one illustration of the work carried on day by day in essential industries throughout the country under a program which the Secretary of Labor initiated in 1940, in consultation with a group representing organized safety, government, labor and management. This group, now known as the National Committee for the Conservation of Manpower in War Industries, operates through the Department's Division of Labor Standards.

There is an acute shortage of experienced industrial safety personnel in this country. That is why volunteer safety agents—600 of them—have been recruited from private industry to help in the manpower conservation program. The firms which employ them permit them to devote about 20% of their time to other plants which would otherwise be unable to obtain such expert assistance. In addition to their own knowledge and safety experience, these special agents have behind them the consultant services of experts in various specialized phases of safety and health and the full-time services of the safety and health staff of the Division of Labor Standards.

During the three and a half years in

which the manpower conservation program has been operating, these special agents have called upon some 25,000 war contract plants.

Since plants all over the country need special training for operating personnel to make safety an integral part of production, appropriate courses have been set up by the Engineering, Science, Management War Training Program of the U. S. Office of Education. Under this program key industrial supervisors are able to learn the fundamentals and basic methods of industrial safety. The courses are conducted in centers of war production under the sponsorship of local colleges of engineering. The instructors are practical safety men drawn from industry—in many cases, special agents of the National Committee. The safety staff of the Division of Labor Standards has developed the outline for the courses, much of the basic text material, and supple-

mentary data for the guidance of instructors.

Some 50,000 students—men and women at work in war plants—have either completed or are currently enrolled in these courses.

Recognizing that the most elaborately conceived and carefully worked out safety program is doomed to failure without the cooperation of the foreman and his aides, the Division of Labor Standards has developed a 20-hour course on safety in foremanship, designed especially for in-plant training. Sound-slide films developed jointly by the U. S. Department of Labor and the National Safety Council enliven the course sessions. While this course has been available only within the last year, it is estimated that nearly 350,000 foremen, subforemen, and leadmen have either completed or are now taking them.

As background material for the agents to use in plant visits, to supplement the safety courses, and as a general means of promoting a greater understanding of industrial safety, the Division of Labor Standards has issued a number of pamphlets, both popular and technical, covering many aspects of industrial accident and disease prevention.

Two-thirds of a million copies of publications dealing with the fundamentals of safety organization and the handling of specific safety problems have been distributed to management, operating personnel, and supervisors.

In addition, three million copies of a booklet in which the Division lists practical tips on safe work practices have been distributed to war workers by their employers or their unions.

As another means of calling the worker's attention to safety, the Division has printed safety posters for use in war plants.

The National Committee, through the Department of Labor, has sponsored radio programs and news articles on safe work practices.

In conjunction with a private motion-picture producer, the Department has developed a series of films on safe work practices for screening in regular commercial theatres under a sponsorship arrangement.

The Division is also working with organized labor to intensify interest in safety, printing material for the guidance of local unions and establishing safety courses for union members.

The effectiveness of the manpower conservation program can be measured in a number of ways. The most striking examples of results achieved can be secured from individual plants visited by special

MOVING UP



Armed almost to the teeth, this American boy moves up to the front in New Guinea.

agents. A smelting and refining company had a frequency rate of 91.2 accidents per million man hours in Oct. 1942, although the average rate for the industry was only 27.9. With the special agent's help, the plant pushed its rate down to 69.9 for Nov. and 16.4 for Dec. A foundry with a rate of 136.7 in Oct. 1942, compared to an average industry rate of 47.0, was able to achieve a record of no lost time accidents in Dec., through National Committee assistance. A pulp and paper company reduced its rate from 75.8 in Oct. 1942 to 9.8 in Dec. by following the recommendations of a special agent. Many other equally outstanding examples could be cited.

An overall picture is more difficult to obtain because the vast majority of plants have never before computed accident frequency rates. Only 4,377 of the plants contacted by the National Committee during the first 30 months of its existence had records which could be used in comparing experience before and after the assistance extended to them. Of the reporting plants, 74.2% experienced a decrease in accident frequency; 4.8% reported no change, and the remaining 21% continued to show an upward trend.

For the majority of plants serviced, those which maintained no record of accident frequency rates, the sole criterion of progress is the extent to which they have improved accident prevention techniques. A survey of some 5,000 plants visited during the last six months of 1942 showed that 42% had initiated or intensified their plant safety program as a result of Committee service and that 11% had added the services of a safety engineer.

The annual estimates on work injuries published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics show that the rate of increase of accident frequency has been slowed down considerably during the last two years. In 1941, the average frequency increased 18.3% over 1940. The increase from 1941 to 1942 was 10% and that from 1942 to 1943, 5.5%.

The size of the job ahead is indicated by the fact that some 2½ million persons were disabled by work injuries in 1943, the highest volume of injuries for any year during the last decade. Estimates place the time actually lost during the year as a result of these injuries at 56,800,000 days.

At the present time the Department of Labor is inaugurating a campaign to prevent a million industrial accidents in 1944. The productive time which can be saved through such prevention represents our greatest manpower reserve today. (Prepared especially for VICTORY BULLETIN.)

BASIC WAGE RATES REMAIN UNCHANGED

Basic hourly wage rates under the National War Labor Board's wage stabilization policy have remained substantially unchanged since Oct. 1942, when Congress directed that wages and prices be controlled, according to Chairman William H. Davis.

Increases in basic hourly wage rates approved by NWLB during the 15-month period of Oct. 1942 to Dec. 31, 1943, were less than 2%. Average straight-time hourly earnings rose 8½% during the same period while gross average hourly earnings went up approximately 11½%.

Less than one-half of 1% of the wage cases decided by NWLB involved price increases.

The wage stabilization policy has limited wage increases to those workers whose wages were relatively low, usually because they had lagged on the general upswing which began early in 1941. Since the wage stabilization program went into effect, basic hourly rates have not been changed at all through actions of the Board for more than three-fourths of the 30,000,000 workers whose wages are under WLB jurisdiction.

Proposed wage adjustments for more than one million workers have been denied by the Board, while the remaining workers have not come before the Board for any changes in their wages.

While the basic hourly rates have remained substantially unchanged since Oct. 1942, substantial increases in average earnings have nevertheless occurred. Increased overtime work has added substantially to the weekly pay envelopes of

the workers. Many thousands have transferred to higher-paying jobs in war industries and have thus increased their incomes although the hourly rates of pay in the industries have remained relatively constant. Within the same industries and within particular plants, workers have been upgraded and promoted to better paying jobs, and workers under incentive systems have been able to increase their earnings through increased productivity at the same basic rates of pay.

During the 15 months from Oct. 1942 through Dec. 1943, NWLB acted on 112,250 voluntary wage applications involving more than 6,000,000 workers. An average increase of 6.6¢ an hour, representing a 9.6% increase, was granted by the Board in these cases. In the manufacturing industry, covering about two-thirds of the workers involved, the average increase was approximately 6¢ an hour, while workers in non-manufacturing industries received an average increase of 8¢ an hour. "White collar" workers affected by NWLB decisions—largely in finance, insurance and real estate operations—received an average increase of 8.4¢. Approximately 400,000 employees in retail distribution received an average increase of 7¢ an hour, and 300,000 workers in wholesale trades received 7.4¢.

From Oct. 3, 1942 to Feb. 11, 1944, the Board acted upon 134,819 wage cases and disposed of wage issues in 5,558 dispute cases. Of the 599 cases submitted to the Director of Economic Stabilization, all but 11 have been approved. (NWLB.)

FORWARD ON LABOR'S BACK



☆ PRICES & RATIONING ☆

Zero Point Value Set on Frozen Fruits, Vegetables; Meats Show Slight Decrease

Other Point Adjustments Made to Move Present Stocks And Provide Adequate Storage Space for the New Pack

Point values of all frozen fruits and vegetables, accounting for about 6% of all rationed processed foods, will be at zero for the period of April 2 to 29. OPA action in this connection was taken at the request of the War Food Administration to release cold storage space for meats, dairy and poultry products, and other foods from 1944 production.

Other important point value adjustments include the reduction of canned peas and fig and plum jams to zero. It is expected canned peas will be at zero point value only temporarily. Small containers of tomato juice (14 ounces and under), for which tin is no longer available, were reduced to 1 point each, while minor adjustments were made for some large containers of tomato juice and soups.

With the exception of frozen fruits and vegetables and canned peas, consumers will find most point values for rationed processed foods unchanged. Canned fruits will continue at current levels, while most canned vegetables will continue to be point bargains.

Frozen fruits and vegetables going to zero on April 2 are apricots, blackberries, boysenberries, cherries, currants, dewberries, grapes, loganberries, olympicberries, peaches, raspberries, strawberries, youngberries, blueberries, elderberries, huckleberries, mixed fruits (over 20% by weight of rationed frozen fruits), plums, prunes, cut corn, lima beans and peas. The zero value applies to both consumer and industrial packages of all frozen commodities.

Several of the frozen fruit and vegetable items had previously been removed from rationing. They are apples, applesauce, rhubarb, asparagus, broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, cauliflower, mixed vegetables, snap beans, spinach, beets, carrots, leafy greens, pumpkin, squash, and prepared dry beans. All frozen fruit juices also were at zero.

On Feb. 1, the total amount of frozen fruits and vegetables in storage was slightly over 378 million pounds. Of this quantity, 135,763,000 pounds or 38.8 per cent has been subject to rationing control since Jan. 1. This is less than 9% of the total of all foods occupying cold storage space on Feb. 1.

Point value adjustments and the reasons for each follow:

Peas (No. 2 can), decreased 3; new value zero. The stock position of peas on Feb. 1, 1944, compared to Feb. 1, 1943, shows an increase of approximately six million cases. Much of this stock is of standard quality and increased movement is necessary to enable present supplies to move out before the new pack reaches consumer levels of distribution.

Carrots (No. 2 can), decreased 2; new value, 3 points. Recent information indicates there will be a pack of about 1½ million cases available for civilians during 1944.

Tomato Juices, because some supplies in small containers still remain from the previous year, steps were taken to move the small sizes by reducing them to 1 point.

Soups (over two and including three pounds), decreased 2; new value 16.

Figs and plums, decreased 2 points per pound; new value zero. Unusually heavy production and slow movement of these flavors, which normally are not among the most popular, made a zero point value necessary. (OPA, Mar. 29.)

With estimated civilian supplies of meat for April showing but a slight decrease from March, new meat ration point values show virtually no change from the present. All popular fresh cuts of beef, pork, veal and mutton will continue at the low point values set for March.

Likewise, the point value of butter remains at 16 points. Shortening, and salad and cooking oils are both cut 1 point to 4 points per pound. Cream, neufchatel and creamed cottage cheese are increased 2 points, being listed at 12 points per pound. Although the amount of butter available for rationing during April will be up several million pounds as compared with March, the total is sufficient only to maintain an even distribution of butter with a 16 point value.

Lard will remain at zero point. In order to maintain a reasonable relationship between lard and shortening and cooking oils, the latter two items are reduced 1 point to 4 points per pound.

Margarine remains at 6 points per pound, reflecting a somewhat lower allocation for April.

The Group II cheeses—cream, neufchatel and creamed cottage—are raised 2 points, to a total of 12 points, as demand has been running consistently ahead of the civilian supply.

About 1,180,000 pounds of meat will be available for civilians in April. This compares with 1,266,000,000 pounds for March, the reduction in the supply reflecting the normal tapering off in production during the spring months. As meat supplies in the channels of distribution are fairly satisfactory, it is possible to keep most meat cuts at the low March levels. Main exception to the general maintenance of March points are meats packed in tin or glass containers and ready-to-eat meats. Many of these items are reduced 1 and 2 points. Other minor changes include a reduction of 1 point in lamb and mutton variety meats, and a cut to zero points in the value of pork spareribs.

In the canned fish category, mackerel and sardines are cut 4 points to 8 points per pound. These varieties of canned fish have been moving relatively slowly as compared with the other rationed types. (OPA, Mar. 31.)

COSTS RISE 25%

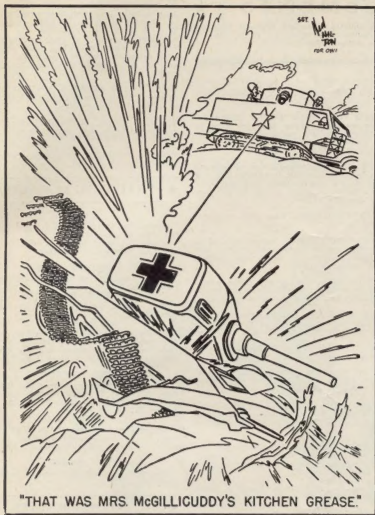
Cost of living in the U. S. has risen only 25.5% in the 54 months of the present war, whereas in the 54 months after the start of the last war the cost of living had increased about 65%.

In the 25.5% increase during the current conflict, 70% of the rise took place before retail price control began. It is estimated that if the cost of living had been permitted to rise the way it increased in the last war, consumers would have had to pay out, on their expenditures through 1943, an additional \$22 billion. In the first World War, 42 cents of every dollar spent for war goods was an "extra charge" because of inflated prices.

In this war, if industrial prices had risen the way they increased in the last war, the war bill for munitions and construction, which through 1943 totalled \$136 billion, would have cost an additional \$65 billion. If the \$22 billion saved in cost-of-living is added to the \$65 billion saved in the cost-of-war, the total savings amount to \$87 billion. (OWI, Mar. 30.)

A plastic insole has been developed for U. S. jungle fighters, which keeps soldiers' feet dryer and can be washed with soap and water.

A BULL'S EYE SHOT



CONTINUANCE OF MEAT RATIONING SEEN FOR 1944

Meat rationing enters its second year with civilian supplies sufficient to maintain the nation's health, the rationing system improved to a degree previously thought impossible—but with little possibility that rationing can be suspended during 1944.

Total civilian consumption of meat during the first year of rationing was at one of the highest levels in the country's history. The nation's farmers produced during 1943 almost 23 billion pounds of meat, a record amount. Of this amount, 6 billion pounds helped feed U. S. soldiers and those of the Allies. A little less than 17 billion pounds found its way to civilian tables. With the exception of the three-year period of 1940-1942, this is the highest civilian meat consumption since 1928.

The War Food Administration estimates that there will be slightly more meat in 1944 than there was in 1943. Farmers are expected to produce a total of 25 billion pounds of meat, of which about 17 billion will be available for civilians. This means that each civilian will eat, on the average, about 132 pounds of meat this year. During the decade of 1931-1940, the total production of meat averaged 16.7 billion a year, or 131 pounds per person. It is estimated that if rationing were abandoned demand would jump to between 160 and 170 pounds per year.

It is estimated that for 1944 as a whole there will be enough butter to allow each civilian slightly more than a pound a month. This amounts to about 76 out of every 100 pounds of farm and creamery butter available for use in 1944. Americans both in and out of the services have been allocated 95 out of every 100 pounds of the butter supply by WFA. The total 1944 butter supply is expected to total 2 billion 46 million pounds.

During the past few months an average of 130,000,000 pounds of butter has been made available monthly for civilian use. Experience indicates that a fairly high point value is necessary to assure fair distribution of this amount of butter. To cut point values of butter, without a substantial increase in the supply, would only cause a return of the conditions of last summer and fall when, as a result of a large demand for butter near the centers where it is made, a severe shortage of butter developed in the coastal and other outlying areas. (OPA, Mar. 29.)

WHO'S WHO IN FOOD PRICE DIVISION, OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION

Harold E. Sanford, head of the Feed Section, has been Pacific Coast manager of the Continental Grain Co. Previous to that, he was associated with the Farmers National Grain Corp.; Wood-Baxter and Co., importers and exporters; I. C. Sanford Grain Co., grain merchants, and Strauss and Co., grain exporters.

Wilson D. Sanderson, head of the Beverage Section, was formerly Vice-President of William Hamilton and Sons, a flour mill, and Vice-President of Victor Flour Mills.

Thomas R. Bradley, Senior Business Specialist, was manager in Cleveland for the Rath Packing Co.

Frank Zeh, Senior Business Specialist in the Distribution Price Section, was secretary to the Grocers' Associations of Des Moines.

Snowden R. Clary, Business Analyst in the Manufactured Dairy Products Section, was associated with the Food Distribution Administration in Chicago and with the Creamery Package Manufacturing Co.

John F. Gismond, Price Executive of the Fruits and Vegetable Branch, has been associated with OPA since June, 1942. Before that he was with the Quaker Maid Company.

Geoffrey Baker, Assistant Director of the Division, was formerly assistant national manager of institutional products for General Foods Corp. He went to OPA in March, 1942, served with the agency until July, 1943, and then went briefly to the Office of Lend-Lease Administration before returning to OPA.

★ OPA ANNOUNCEMENTS ★

The full texts of the orders, regulations, and news releases digested below are available from the Division of Public Inquiries, Office of War Information, Washington, 25, D. C.
Requests for such texts should cite the dates indicated.

BITUMINOUS COAL: Revised schedule of ceilings for producers in District No. 8 affects shipments by rail (3-27).

SUGAR BEET AND CANE: Growers may receive part of sugar produced from their 1944 crops without giving up ration stamps (3-24).

COSMETICS, TOILETRIES: Retail sellers may continue to pass on to consumers Federal excise taxes (3-25).

TIRES: Only dealers provided by OPA with inventory reporting form need continue to file quarterly reports of stocks (3-27).

ROLLED GLASS: Industry advisory committee appointed (3-27).

PICKLED, SPICED, BRANDIED FRUITS: Will be restored to processed foods rationing program in June (3-27).

IMPORTED INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS: Importers entitled to base prices on first purchase after Aug. 20, 1943 may sell at those prices only until May 1 (3-27).

PETROLEUM PRODUCTS: Firms selling to farm trade through commission agents may pay commission without increase in prices to farmer (3-27).

EASTERN PRIMARY FOREST PRODUCTS: Sellers with firm contracts authorized to apply for permission to complete deliveries at contract prices for 60 days after effective date of any decrease in ceilings (3-27).

BEER: New price schedules permit excise tax increases to be added by wholesale or retail malt beverage producer (3-27).

FUEL OIL: Operation of primary suppliers simplified and monthly reports revised (3-27).

IMPORTED TANNING PRODUCTS: Proposed price regulation discussed (3-28).

RENTS: Changes in regulations affect newly constructed primary housing (3-28).

TIGHT COOPERAGE STOCK: Ceilings on staves and heading produced from certain wood raised (3-28).

LINEN THREAD WASTE: New prices reduced by ceilings based on Oct. 1941 selling levels (3-28).

COLLAPSIBLE ALUMINUM TUBES: Manufacturers resuming production must submit proposed prices for approval (3-28).

USED TIGHT WOODEN BARRELS: Ceilings placed on sales by smelters or dumpers (3-28).

MAPLE SYRUP, SUGAR: Regulation on producer and packer sales revised to make price changes and add several new definitions (3-28).

MEATS: Advisory committee established (3-28).

REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE: Charges for service on gas, water, and unit heaters may be increased in certain cases by revised procedure for determining ceilings (3-28).

RICE: Margin allowed primary distributors cut from 25c per 100 lbs. to 15c (3-28).

YARN, ROVE AND ROPE: Cents-per-pound prices set for all manufactured entirely from jute fiber and for certain jute centers for wire rope and previous prices modified for jute and idle ropemaking yarn and rove (3-28).

FRESH FISH AND SEAFOOD: New schedule of importers' maximum prices issued for Canadian fresh lake fish (3-29).

DRESSED EULACHON SMELTS: Maximum prices fixed for those caught primarily in Columbia River and sold to Government (3-29).

RUBBER HEELS: Manufacturers and wholesalers in home replacement trade authorized to sell and make deliveries subject to later changes in ceilings (3-29).

ARMORED (BX) ELECTRICAL CABLE: New schedule based on 1941 prices (3-29).

IMPORTED COAL TAR ACIDS: Method of computing maximum prices fixed for sales by Defense Supplies Corp. to distillers, and for sales by them to individual consumers of re-distilled products (3-29).

MEATS: Packers and sellers of cuts of beef and veal who have accumulated inventories trimmed according to old specifications may apply for price adjustments in order to sell to war procurement agencies (3-29).

OIL OF PEPPERMINT: Base price increases announced (3-29).

RATIONED FOODS: Point values reduced at trade level for some ready-to-eat, variety, and canned meats, canned fish, shortening, cooking, and salad oils (3-30).

WALNUT GUNSTOCK BLANKS: Ceilings fixed on sets of Mark IV walnut rifle furniture blanks produced according to new specifications (3-30).

SMOKING TOBACCO: Manufacturers of private brands whose price ceilings involve hardship may apply for increases (3-30).

FROZEN OCEAN POULTS: Reductions placed on processors' ceilings (3-30).

ROUGH RICE: "Toll milling" practices prohibited if used to exceed the milled rice ceilings (3-30).

BULK STARCH, DESTRENE PRODUCTS: Recently allowed maximum price increase applied to products contain up to 14% of moisture (3-30).

BULL HIDES: When Pacific Coast types are included with steer and cow hides, the mixed lot must be sold at no more than maximum price for bull hides (3-30).

MEATS: Retailers points will be loaned to retailers and wholesalers able to buy and store pork (3-30).

LUGGAGE: Retailers must state Federal excise tax on price tags separately from ceilings (3-31).

TOYS AND GAMES: Manufacturers provided method for automatically determining maximum prices (3-31).

AUTOS: Ten thousand new passenger cars available under rationing in April (3-31).

HIDES, KIPS, CALFSKINS: Copies of "memorandum" covering shipments to tanners on "memorandum" must be submitted to OPA's national office (3-31).

BRASS AND BRONZE ALLOY INGOT: Increases in principal grades announced (3-31).

CANNED FRUIT: Advisory committee formed (3-31).

LOCKS AND LOCK SETS: Specific dollars-and-cents prices fixed for manufacturers' sales of rim locks and steel, porcelain, mineral and jet knob rim lock sets (3-31).

YELLOW CYPRESS LUMBER: Producers using dollars-and-cents ceilings announced last month must price according to grades established in Jan. 1941 (3-31).

FRESH FISH, SEAFOOD: Specified mark-ups used by retailers to determine ceilings extended through April (3-31).

APPLE POOR PRODUCTS: Advisory committee formed (3-31).

OILED WOOD HOOPS: New ceilings set (4-1).

POULTRY: Retailers buying live, dressed or frozen and selling "cut-up" or in parts given new method for figuring prices (4-1).

NIGHT CLUBS, CABARETS: New Federal 30% excise tax on gross dollar revenue of places where entertainment is provided for diners can-

not be included in revenue figures supplied OPA in connection with allocation of rationed foods (4-1).

EXPORT OF RATIONED FOODS: Regulations consolidated in single order (4-1).

WINES: Processors of fruit and berry wines, and grape wines other than Calif. grape wines, must determine maximum prices for 1943 fruit crop on same pricing basis used for 1942 crop (4-1).

WEST COAST LUMBER MOULDINGS: Producers in Wash., Oregon and Calif. must apply to OPA for ceilings (4-1).

RE-SALE BOOK MATCHES: Specific retail ceilings for books with non-commercial cover designs established (4-2).

YELLOW CYPRESS LUMBER: Provisions in MPR 513 revoked (4-2).

★ RATIONING REMINDERS ★

SUGAR
Stamp No. 30 in Book 4 is valid indefinitely for 5 lbs. of sugar.

Stamp No. 10 in Book 4 is valid for 5 lbs. of sugar for use in home canning.

MEATS, FATS
Red stamps A8 through J8 are now valid indefinitely.

PROCESSED FOODS
Blue stamps A8 through K8 are now valid indefinitely.

GASOLINE
In the 17 states with a gasoline shortage area, A-9 coupons remain valid through May 8. In states outside the eastern shortage area, A-11 coupons remain valid through June 21.

TIRE INSPECTION
For the A coupon holders the deadline is Sept. 31. For B coupon holders the deadline is June 30. For C coupon holders the deadline is May 31.

FUEL OIL
Period 4 coupons are valid in all areas through Sept. 30. Period 5 coupons became valid in all areas on March 14 and remain valid through Sept. 30.

STOES
Stamp No. 18 in Book 1 remains valid through April 30.

★ CONSUMER NOTES ★

HAM
Ration point values for fresh and cured hams at retail and wholesale during April will remain unchanged from those in effect in March. Ready-to-eat hams, however, will be uniformly one point per pound lower than in March. Also, "dry cured" hams are to have in April a ration point value only one point above the fresh hams from which they are prepared, compared with a differential of two points higher than fresh hams in March. (3-28).

EXPIRATION DATES
Major relief for the nation's 600,000 retailers from the burden of rationing has been provided by the removal of expiration dates from the red and blue stamps used for buying meats, fats, oils and processed fruits and vegetables.

From now on the red and blue stamps in War Ration Book Four will be good indefinitely, just as shoes and sugar stamps are. Advance notice will be given if it is found necessary to retire any food stamps.

There is no change in the rate at which stamps become good. However, may continue to budget their family purchases of rationed foods on the basis of three red stamps (worth a total of 30 points) every second Sunday, and five blue stamps (worth a total of 50 points) the first of every month. (3-27).

EXTRA RATIONS FOR THE SICK
Local Wartime Price and Rationing Boards from now on will make extra rationing for persons of health where the individual is suffering from a type of illness generally accepted as requiring more rationed food than the average. Of course, he made for additional rations for other illness but local boards will, except in cases of emergency, pass these on to the OPA District Office for consideration. Individuals suffering from these illnesses will receive additional rations on the basis of needs for 10-week periods. (4-1).